

TOWN OF ACTON
SIDEWALK COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes of December 8, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Acton Town Hall, Rm 121

Next Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 12, 2011, 7:00 p.m. Acton Memorial Library Conference Room.

Present: Kate Chung, Sytske Campbell, Dana Snyder-Grant, Pam Cochrane, Dick Calandrella, Leslie Hogan, Bettina Abe, and Pam Harting-Barrat, liaison from the Board of Selectmen.

Citizen Concerns:

Bill Marathias attended the meeting to discuss Taylor Road.

Procedural Matters:

The November 2010 minutes were accepted. Following acceptance, a motion was made to withdraw the acceptance. Approval is pending the final tally of Taylor Road's surveys returned.

Recap of information transmitted by Town Engineering Dept, Corey York:

Taylor Road: We have received 60% of the Right of Entry (ROE) forms. Corey noted that there is a neighborhood group that seems eager about the potential for a sidewalk. He has explained to one individual that the Sidewalk Committee is actively going door to door to obtain the necessary approvals so that the Town can begin the survey. He indicated that he hopes to get everyone's approval this fall/winter and possibly start the survey during the next construction season.

Great Road: Corey was able to get all the legal paperwork resolved for the Great Road sidewalk survey & design. He sent this request to a few firms and hopes to have their proposals in a couple weeks.

Summer Street: Engineering has compiled the record information for these properties and plan to start searching for survey markers in December.

Parker Street development near train tracks: The developer has decided to make a contribution to the sidewalk fund in lieu of constructing a sidewalk.

River Street: At the River Street development across from Chadwick Street, the developer plans to install a sidewalk.

20/20 Group: There were several e-mail exchanges with John Hersey of the Planners Collaborative Transportation Group regarding sidewalk needs in Acton, particularly on Great Road and Route 27. Kate Chung responded to his questions.

Taylor Road:

Bill Marathias attended the meeting to express concern about the position of Taylor Road on the list of sidewalks relative to the other sidewalks in line for construction. Mr. Marathias said he believes it should be the town's sidewalk priority because it is the only school in Acton without sidewalks. In addition, he is concerned for the pedestrians who walk on Taylor Road because of the narrowness of the road, the frequency of large vehicle traffic and the general (higher than allowed) speed of vehicles on this road. In addition, Mr. Marathias expressed concern over the idea of putting yellow dividing lines on the Taylor Road. He believes this will encourage speeding. Pam Harting-Barrat suggested speaking with the Conant School's principal, Damian Sugrue, the Engineering Department, as well as Town Manager, Steve Ledoux, and asking them to write a letter in support of sidewalk construction.

Approximately 21 ROE's have not been returned (4 parcels of property belong to the Town; 2 owners refused to sign because of concern over liability should a Town employee be hurt while surveying their property ; 3 are owned by Mr. Hendrie who wants more time to consider; 1 is in the mail; and the remaining 11 were divided among the Committee members. Responsibility for contacting each property owner was assigned to a Sidewalk Committee member using a list of residence addresses and owners sorted by Parcel ID. Mr. Marathias offered to join committee members when visiting residences who have not responded to the letters and phone calls. His contact information was distributed.

Sidewalk Funds:

The Sidewalk Committee would like to know what is remaining in this year's Sidewalk fund after the construction of sidewalks on Central, Prospect, and High Streets. Pam Harting-Barrat will investigate with the Board of Selectmen and report back.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sytske Campbell

Open Meeting law requires that the following must be included in the minutes:

- ✓ Date, place, time and matters discussed.
- ✓ Summaries of discussions
- ✓ List of documents used
- ✓ Decisions made
- ✓ Actions taken
- ✓ Record of all votes (yeas, nays and abstentions).
- ✓ A list of all documents and other exhibits, such as photographs, recordings, maps and presentations used by the body at the open or executive session.

Future Meetings Planned: (All at 7pm at the Acton Memorial Library Conference Room unless noted) (all on the second Wednesday of the month)

January 12, 2011 (location
exception: Town Hall, Room 121)

February 9

March 9

April 13

May 11

June 8

July 13, 2011

August 10

September 14

October 12

November 9

December 14